Celebrating the Life of

Ernestine Joyce Shepherd

Sunrise
October 2, 1917

Sunset
March 27, 2013

Services Held:
Saturday, April 6, 2013, 11:00 a.m.
Greater New Bethel Apostolic Church
101 Market Avenue, Richmond, CA
Officiating: Pastor Robert Adams

Most Beautiful Woman in the World

No greater love than Jesus had when he gave his life for us all. Beyond that, God blessed us with no greater loveless when he created you. For 95 and a half years your heart beat flowed with the perfect beats and rhythms of the universe. And your light shone for us all to behold. But somehow now that beat seems a little off, the light is shining a little dim. But your memory and all that you accomplished relentlessly charges on. You, the little woman that could… Your imperfections made you just perfect for us. You, never knowing ALL things, yet accepting us all despite our shortcomings and downfalls. They say, "but that's what mothers do." But… you were more than that, you were an always praying, endless loving, cotton picking, even after slavery working: "Rosie the Riveter" welding: bible loving and believing: delicious lip smacking cooking: gotta keep my house clean: gonna raised these babies working: gonna help my babies raise my grandbabies: Oh lord, I'll even raise my great grand baby enduring: gritting your teeth while threatening those babies and smiling: speaking in tongue holy ghost having: beautiful suit, dresses and hats wearing: tithes and offering giving: always keeping it smooth in a Lincoln driving: "Fired Up" political activist marching: over 160 people matriarching: the Lord's prayer reciting and thank you Jesus and Hallelujah shouting until you could whisper it no more, praising. Thank you could never be enough. I can never say good bye. Thank you Lord for the time you blessed us with The Most Beautiful Woman in the World.

Ernestine Joyce Shepherd granddaughter,
Quanikki Van Hook

"I Have a New Address"

I just wanted to let everyone know that I've moved. I was called on then received by my father. To my precious loved ones, I plan to be here a lot longer, but GOD informed me that my new home was ready and I could move in immediately. Now that my new home is finally finished, it is a beautiful sight to behold. It is located in an exclusive area just off of serene celestial shore, and it sits behold a beautiful pearly white gate. Of course, the streets are paved with gold and everyday is Sabbath. There is sweet serenity everywhere. There is so much peace, love, joy and happiness here. There is no more pain to bear, no more struggles, strife or discontent. Now we all know that I can go on and about my new home, but I have to get fitted for my new wings! Let me give you my address: Ernestine Joyce Shepherd, 7 Hallelujah Way Gods Kingdom, Heaven

P.S: I don't have a phone number yet, but just call on God and ask for me.

God Bless You All, Ernestine Joyce Shepherd

Order of Service

Officiating..... *Pastor Robert Adams*
True Holiness Apostolic Church

Processional.....*Family*

Old Testament Reading..... *Minister Antwon Cloird*

New Testament Reading.....*Reverend Paul Shavens*

Prayer of Comfort.....*Reverend Andre Alexander, Sr.*

Musical Selection.....*Valarie Rideaux*

Resolutions.....*True Holiness Apostolic Church*

Acknowledgements/Obituary.....*Mrs. Lucy Runnels*

Poem.....*Angela (Angie) Collins*

Musical Selection.....*Rici Alexander*
Valarie Rideaux

Expressions (2 minute limit).....*Family and Friends*

Musical Selection.....*Nathaniel Jones*

Eulogy..... *Minister Wilson Brooks*

Parting View.....*Wilson and Kratzer Staff*

Recessional

Repast
Rollingwood Recreation Center
2395 Greenwood Drive
San Pablo, CA

Remembering

Ernestine Joyce Shepherd

October 2, 1917 – March 27, 2013

Ernestine Joyce Shepherd began her journey on the Osage Indian Reservation in Pawhuska, Oklahoma on October 2, 1917. She was born to Stella Mae Butler. At an early age her family relocated to Denver CO where she received her primary and secondary education.

As a young adult searching for employment opportunities, Ernestine "hopped the rails" and ended up in Allensworth, CA, now a historic all black town. Still searching for opportunities, she moved to Richmond CA where she remained until her homecoming.

During World War II, Ernestine worked at the Kaiser Shipyards as a welder. For her services rendered and dedication to her country the United States Government has honored her as an official "Rosie the Riveter."

After her dedicated service to her country, she returned to formal education where she received a degree from Alameda College. She would go on to become a business owner (Café) and a Real Estate agent. Through her many ventures Ernestine ultimately settled into working as a Social Worker for Contra Costa County until her retirement.

As a community activist, Ernestine was an active member in several organizations: Citizens Action League (CAL), Richmond NAACP, and Richmond Democratic Party.

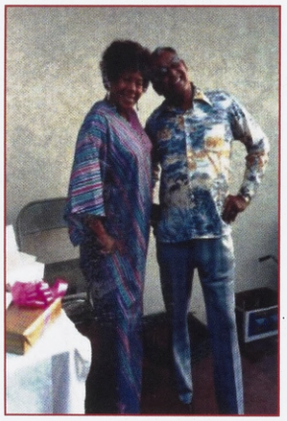
At the age of 28, Ernestine accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and was filled with the holy ghost. She became a member of New Bethel C.O.G.I.C Apostolic Church. Ernestine is a current member of True Holiness Apostolic Church of Richmond, CA.

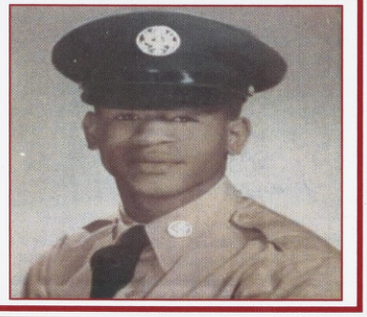
For nine and a half decades Ernestine has touched and graced many lives. She had a distinguished ability to make everyone whom she encountered feel loved and accepted. She will be sorely missed by countless members of her community and especially so by her family.

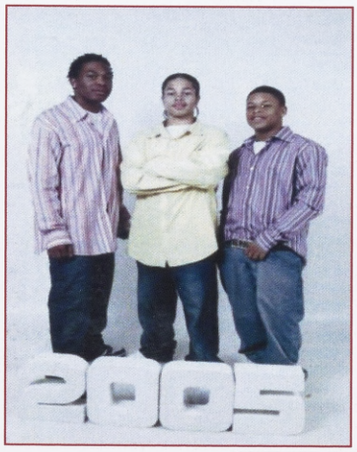
She will now be joining her loved ones who preceded her in death, grandparents Louis and Estelle Butler: mother, Stella Mae Butler: brother, Paul Bowers: sister, Francis Bowers: six children: daughters, Novella Joyce Barnes, Darlene Vaughn, Beverly Monteith and Paulette Van Hook: sons, Robert Barnes, and Allison "Phillip" Vaughn. Left to cherish her memory and carry on her legacy as a phenomenal matriarch is her loving children: daughters, Rosina Suydam of Henderson NV, Shirley Bryant-Phillips of Denver CO, Sharon "Sherry" Winbush of Richmond CA and son David Shepherd of Richmond, CA, stepchildren: Donald Malone of Las Vegas, NV, Janice Jackson and Linda Dotson both of Fresno CA, a special great grandchild which she raised Ashley, 39 grandchildren, 68 great grandchildren, 43 great great grandchildren and a host of adoring extended family members and close friends.

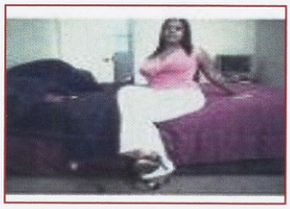
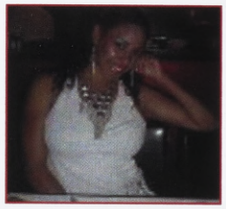
Matthew 6: 9-13

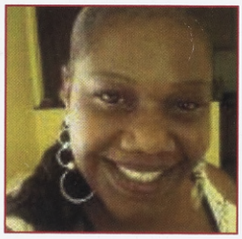
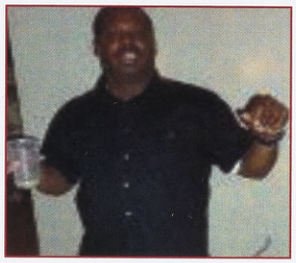
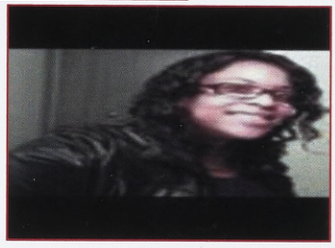
Family

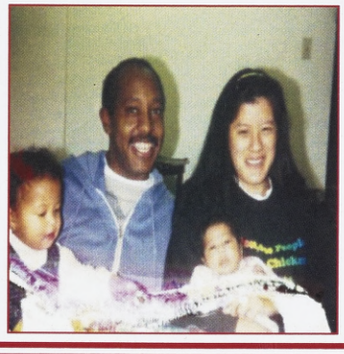





2005



Active Pallbearers

Adrian Collins
David Armstrong
Ronald James
Tyrone Morgan
Maurice Shepherd
Isaiah Johnson

Honorary Pallbearers

Donald Malone
Navarro Van Hook
David Shepherd
Gerald Johnson
Donald Chambers
Jesse Slocum
Marvin Shepherd, Sr.
James Wheaton
Earl Lee
Phillip Vaughn

Special Thanks

Very special thanks from Sharon Winbush to my daughter-in-law, Angela Collins and dear friend, Priscilla Persons for your unwavering support, undying love and endless time dedicated to Momma when she needed you most.

Acknowledgements

The Shepherd family would like to express their sincere gratitude for your prayers, cards, telephone calls, flowers, kind words of condolence, and your many expressions of love.

Arrangements Entrusted to:
Wilson and Kratzer Mortuaries
455 24th Street
Richmond, CA

Interment
Rolling Hills Memorial Park
4100 Hilltop Drive
Richmond, CA